

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method performed by a handwriting recognition device for presenting a recognized handwritten symbol, the recognition device having a processor and detection means for detecting entry of a handwritten symbol, the method comprising the steps of:

detecting, by the detection means, a handwritten pattern that is entered by a user,

recognizing, by the processor, the detected handwritten pattern, wherein said step of recognizing comprises:

comparing the handwritten pattern to a plurality of templates, wherein each of the plurality of templates represents at least one of a plurality of handwriting symbol patterns of handwritten ways of hand writing symbols, and

returning a best template selected from the plurality of templates that represents one of the plurality of handwriting symbol patterns as a best handwriting symbol pattern which, according to a predefined rule, is most similar to the handwritten pattern, wherein at least two of the plurality of templates comprise different ones of the plurality of handwriting symbol patterns which represent different handwritten ways of handwriting a single symbol; and

presenting the best handwriting symbol pattern of the best template.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one of the plurality of handwriting symbol patterns of each of the plurality of templates is represented by geometrical information relating to an appearance of said handwriting symbol pattern.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the geometrical information comprises information of positions of a number of dots representing the at least one of the plurality of writing symbol patterns, said at

least one of the plurality of handwriting symbol patterns being presented by lines drawn between the dots.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the whole best handwriting symbol pattern of the best template at once.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting lines one at a time.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising, before the step of presenting, manipulating the best handwriting symbol pattern of the best template according to characteristics of the handwritten pattern.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 6, wherein the step of manipulating is done in consideration of at least one characteristic in the group of translation, rotation, slant and scaling.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the handwritten pattern is entered on an input area on the screen and the best handwriting symbol pattern of the best template is presented in a presentation area on the screen, wherein said presentation area overlaps the input area.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of recognizing comprises returning at least one alternative template selected from the plurality of templates.

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the at least one of the plurality of handwriting symbol patterns of the at least one alternative template at a request of a user.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of templates is associated with a category defining what kind of symbol is represented by each of the plurality of templates.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein the step of presenting comprises masking the presentation of the best handwriting symbol pattern according to which category the best template is associated with.

13. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 12, wherein the category is indicated by a certain color of a background to the best handwriting symbol pattern.

14. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 12, wherein the category is indicated by a certain color of the best handwriting symbol pattern.

15. (Currently Amended) A method performed by a handwriting recognition device for sequentially presenting a plurality of recognized handwritten symbols, the recognition device having a processor and detection means for detecting entry of a handwritten symbol, the method comprising for each handwritten pattern the steps of:

- detecting, by the detection means, the handwritten pattern,
- recognizing, by the processor, the detected handwritten pattern, wherein said step of recognizing comprises:

- comparing the handwritten pattern to a plurality of templates, wherein each of the plurality of templates represents at least one of a plurality of handwriting symbol patterns of handwritten ways of hand writing symbols and

- returning a best interpretation of the handwritten pattern, said best interpretation being based on one of the plurality of handwriting symbol patterns as a best handwriting symbol pattern of a best template selected from the plurality of templates that, according to a predefined rule, is most

similar to the handwritten pattern, wherein at least two of the plurality of templates comprise different ones of the plurality of handwriting symbol patterns which represent different handwritten ways of handwriting a single symbol, and wherein the different ones of the plurality of handwriting symbol patterns of said at least two of the plurality of templates return different best interpretations when being most similar to the handwritten pattern; and
presenting the best interpretation.

16. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15, further comprising, before the step of presenting, retrieving as the best interpretation, from a database comprising allographs, a best allograph that is associated with the best handwriting symbol pattern of the best template.

17. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 16, wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the best allograph represented by a bitmap image depicting the way of hand writing symbols of the best template.

18. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 16, wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the best allograph represented by a number of arcs depicting the way of hand writing symbols of the best template.

19. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein the best interpretation is the handwriting symbol pattern of the best template, and wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the best handwriting symbol pattern of the best template on a screen.

20. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 19, wherein each of the plurality of handwriting symbol patterns of a template is represented by geometrical information relating to an appearance of each of said plurality of handwriting symbol patterns.

21. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 20, wherein the geometrical information comprises information of positions of a number of dots representing each of the plurality handwriting symbol patterns, said each of the plurality of handwriting symbol patterns being presented by lines drawn between the dots.

22. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the whole best handwriting symbol pattern represented by the best interpretation at once.

23. (Original) The method according to claim 21, wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the lines one at a time.

24. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15, further comprising, before the step of presenting, manipulating the best handwriting symbol pattern represented by the best interpretation according to characteristics of the handwritten pattern.

25. (Original) The method according to claim 24, wherein the step of manipulating is done in consideration of at least one characteristic in the group of translation, rotation, slant and scaling.

26. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein the handwritten pattern is entered on an input area on a screen and the best interpretation is presented in a presentation area on the screen, whereby said presentation area overlaps the input area.

27. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein the step of recognizing comprises returning at least one alternative interpretation.

28. (Original) The method according to claim 27, wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the at least one alternative interpretation at the request of a user.

29. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein the best interpretation is associated with a category defining what kind of symbol is represented by the best interpretation.

30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 29, wherein the step of presenting comprises masking the presentation of the best interpretation according to which category the best interpretation is associated with.

31. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 30, wherein the category is indicated by a certain color of a background to the at least one of the plurality of handwriting symbol patterns represented by the best interpretation.

32. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 30, wherein the category is indicated by a certain color of the at least one of the plurality of handwriting symbol patterns represented by the best interpretation.

33. (Currently Amended) A device for recognition of a handwritten symbol, said device comprising

- a screen;
- means for detecting a handwritten pattern;
- a database comprising templates that comprise a plurality of handwriting symbol patterns representing handwritten ways of hand writing symbols, wherein at least two of the templates comprising different ones of the plurality of handwriting symbol patterns which represent different handwritten ways of hand writing a single symbol; and

means for recognizing the detected handwritten pattern and returning one of the plurality of patterns of a best template of the handwritten pattern, said best template being most similar to the handwritten pattern,

wherein said device is arranged to present the one of the plurality of handwriting symbol patterns of the best template on the screen.

34. (Currently Amended) A device for recognition of a plurality of handwritten symbols, said device comprising

a screen;

means for detecting a handwritten pattern;

a database comprising templates that comprise a plurality of handwriting symbol patterns representing handwritten ways of hand writing symbols, wherein at least two of the templates comprising different ones of the plurality of handwriting symbol patterns which represent different handwritten ways of hand writing a single symbol; and

means for recognizing the detected handwritten patterns and individually returning for each handwritten pattern a best interpretation of the handwritten pattern, said best interpretation being based on one of the plurality of handwriting symbol patterns of a best template selected from the templates that is most similar to the handwritten pattern, wherein the one of the plurality handwriting symbol patterns of said at least two of the templates return different best interpretations when being most similar to the handwritten pattern,

wherein said device is arranged to present the best interpretation on the screen.